

**U.S. Programs Board Meeting and Retreat**  
**February 23-24, 2011**

**Wednesday, February 23, 2010**

**New York Academy of Medicine, 1216 Fifth Ave. (at 103<sup>rd</sup> Street), Fifth Floor Board Room**

**BOARD GUESTS FOR THE DAY:**

All day (10-4 and dinner)

Drew Westen, Founder, Westen Strategies, Professor, Emory University  
Robert Johnson, Executive Director, Institute for New Economic Thinking  
Steve Coll, President, New America Foundation  
Maria Hinojosa, Founder, Futuro Media Group

Additional guests for polarization and money in politics sessions (10-1)

John Bonifaz, Co-Founder and Director, Free Speech for People  
Jeff Clements, Co-Founder and General Counsel, Free Speech for People  
Bill de Blasio, New York City Public Advocate (12-1:30 only)

Arn Pearson, Vice President for Programs, Common Cause

Additional guest for state sessions (1-4)

Richard Ravitch, Former Lieutenant Governor of the State of New York

10:00-10:30 Opening remarks by George Soros

10:30-12:00 Extreme polarization and the breakdown in civic discourse  
Moderator: Aryeh Neier  
Staff snapshot of current work: Ann Beeson and Raquiba LaBrie

12:00-1:30 The role of money in politics  
(includes lunch)  
Moderator: Jonathan Soros  
Staff snapshot of current work: Laleh Ispahani

1:30-4:00 Expanding state and local strategies

- The fiscal crisis in the states  
Moderator: Andy Stern  
Staff snapshot of current work: Ann Beeson
- State Strategies Initiative  
Moderator: Deepak Bhargava  
Staff snapshot of current work: Bill Vandenberg and Diana Morris

4:00-6:30 Board oversight and engagement  
**EXECUTIVE SESSION - BOARD MEMBERS ONLY**  
(George Soros and Ann Beeson do not attend)

7:00-9:30 Dinner hosted by George Soros (with outside guests)  
1060 Fifth Ave., enter on East 87<sup>th</sup> Street

Discussion of George Soros's vision

- Reactions to George Soros' draft introduction to the forthcoming book, The Philanthropy of George Soros: Building Open Societies
- Implications for our work

**Thursday, February 24, 2010**

**New York Academy of Medicine, 1216 Fifth Ave. (at 103<sup>rd</sup> Street), Fifth Floor Board Room**

8:00-11:00 Board oversight and engagement (continued)  
(breakfast available)  
EXECUTIVE SESSION – BOARD MEMBERS ONLY  
(George Soros and Ann Beeson do not attend)

11:00-2:00 Report back, budget discussion and action items  
(including lunch)

Budget discussion moderator: Deepak Bhargava

- Amendments and final approval of 2011-12 budget
- Approval of process for Chairman and Board initiated grants